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INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN HUMANITIES
STAFF AND SEMINARS

1997

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Phillip Tudor HARRIES, Visiting Professor (September 1997-March 1998), Ph.D. (Oxford Univ.), *Diction and Rhetoric of waka*

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Seminars

Department of Japanese Studies

JAPAN, CHINA, AND KOREA: MUTUAL REPRESENTATION AND MISREPRESENTATION

(coordinated by Professor YAMAMURO, S. and Visiting Professor Joshua FOGEL, April 1996-March 1998)

China, Japan, and Korea have a complex, intertwined history, including shared classical traditions, and religious and philosophical systems; yet each regards itself as in some sense normative, and constitutes its neighbors as both positive and negative benchmarks. The historical interaction of self-images and images of each other as “Other”, (as essentially different and alien, even while sharing certain characteristics), the “representation” and “misrepresentation” of self and other, has been an important engine of cultural and political interaction among these three neighbors. Their mutual representation has important implications for understanding how they constitute themselves vis-a-vis the others, over the past four centuries; how these (mis)understandings have been mobilized ideologically and legally; and how they have affected both domestic and international political, economic, and cultural processes.

STUDY OF THE INFORMATION IN THE PERIOD OF THE MEIJI REVOLUTION (coordinated by Professor SASAKI, S., April 1996-March 2001)

The Meiji Restoration was a social change in the information-oriented nineteenth century. Both the authority and the people had to cope with various informations from the inside and outside of the country. This study aims to investigate how they collected, published and used these informations.

MODES OF LANGUAGE POWER : AN EXPLORATORY STUDY

(coordinated by Associate Professor YOKOYAMA, T., October 1997-September 1998)

This will be an investigation into the nature of the mediating power of language in human society through research on various actual examples. The main object of study will be the spoken and written Japanese language past and present. This is a preliminary attempt to discover a method of general research into the relationship between language and society.

Department of Oriental Studies

URBAN AND RURAL SOCIETY IN MODERN CHINA

(coordinated by Professor MORI, T., April 1993-March 1998)

In Kuomintang-Communist Wars, Mao Tse-tung deduced a famous formula of Chinese Revolution, saying “Encircle the cities from the rural areas and then capture them”. After “liberation” of 1949, Communist China made a very strict distinction of household register between urban and rural residents with the view of preventing a cityward drifting of population. Such examples as these suggest to us the fact that the relation between urban and rural society is one of the key concepts for understanding the social structure of modern China. This research project aims to clarify the urban-rural relationship from various angles of politics, economics, sociology and the like.

RESEARCH INTO THE HISTORY OF CHINESE PHONOLOGY

(coordinated by Professor TAKATA, T., April 1993-March 1998)

Although source materials exist in rich abundance for the Chinese phonology in the Ming and Qing times, due attention has not been given to them until now. A wide-ranging research for this period is indispensable in order to review systematically the development of mandarin dialects. In this research seminar, therefore, we aim chiefly to obtain as much materials as possible and make clear the characteristic of each through careful reading of the prefaces and postfaces as well as scientific analysis of the contents.

THE ‘LI’ SYSTEMS AND ITS THOUGHT IN CHINA’S PAST

(coordinated by Professor KOMINAMI, I., April 1994-March 1999)

In the past society of China, the ‘li’ systems had a large influence, not only on official life, but also on the everyday life of the general public. Our study mainly focuses upon various aspects of the ‘li’ systems; when the systems emerged in Chinese civilization, and how they transformed themselves through the current of times. For the purpose of this research, we take up the text of ‘Zhouli’, and shed light on aspects of the ‘li’ thorough close examination of the text.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY IN THE LATER HALF OF THE NORTHERN DYNASTIES

(coordinated by Professor ARAMAKI, N., April 1994-March 1998)

The seminar designated above is intended to edit, annotate and study some important Buddhist texts of the Northern Dynasties period preserved in the Tunhuang manuscripts, but so far largely neglected by Buddhist scholars. The philosophical texts entitled ‘...章’ will first be selected in order to show how Buddhist philosophies and practices in the Sui-and-Tang period have developed from the tradition of the special type of philosophical discussion on the theses—“章”—which has originally been based upon Buddhist *sūtras* and *śāstras*, but become more and more independent of them finally to be entirely free of them as in Zen dialogue.

STUDY OF THE TRADITIONAL METHODS BOOK CATALOGING IN CHINA

(coordinated by Associate Professor KATSUMURA, T., April 1994-March 1999)

The study of cataloging Chinese books, has traditionally considered as a study of learning itself, not as a simple technique of the compilation of catalogues. Fruitful discussions are expected for editing the forthcoming catalogues of Chinese books collected in the Institute Library. The study has the object to informatize and analyze the books, documents and other archives in China, with the help of information from science technology.

A STUDY OF THE ART OF THE TANG AND SONG DYNASTIES

(coordinated by Professor SOFUKAWA, H., April 1995-March 2000)

The aim of our research is to create a correct and up to date image of the art of the Tang and Song Dynasties from the seventh to thirteenth century. We will analyze the art forms with regard to three things: (1) the vast archaeological materials unearthed since the communist revolution; (2) Buddhist grotto temples such as Longman and Dunhuang; and (3) aesthetic theory in painting and calligraphy.

TANG RELIGIONS

(coordinated by Professor YOSHIKAWA, T., April 1996-March 2000)

Daoism and Buddhism took a new turn at the Tang period. On the basis of the history of conflicts and harmonies between them ever since the Six Dynasties period, Daoism realized further doctrinal reinforcement, the typical example of which is the *Commentary upon the Laozi* by Emperor Xuanzong of the Tang. On the other hand, there appeared Chan Buddhism, a Chinese transformation of Buddhism, and it had a great influence on the Tang and the succeeding periods. This seminar undertakes the annotated translation of the *Beishanlu* by Shenqing, as a means to clarify various phases of Tang religions. Shenqing was a Buddhist monk from Shu in the ninth century.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH ASIA AS REFLECTED IN THE CHINESE BIOGRAPHIES OF BUDDHIST MONK-TRANSLATORS

(coorganized by Professor KUWAYAMA, S., April 1996-March 2001)

The project aims to deepen our understanding of Buddhist culture and society in Central Asia and the northwestern Subcontinent in the 4th-7th centuries. The interdisciplinary meeting held biweekly (on Mondays) focuses on a detailed reading of the biographies of western monks who came to China to translate Buddhist scriptures. Such biographies, edited in the 5th and 7th centuries, are included in the Liang and Tang *Biographies of Eminent Monks*. The five year project begins in April 1996. It is expected to end in March 2001.

THE TRADITION OF TECHNOLOGY IN CHINA

(coordinated by Professor TANAKA, T., April 1996-March 2001)

The aim of this biweekly seminar is to clarify the characteristic of the several fields of the traditional technology and science in China, in particular the fields related with the usual life and domestic sciences. Continued to the former seminar held in 1991-96, at the moment, we read and give the Japanese translation with notes on the most important texts concerning to the agriculture, entitled *Neng Shu (Agricultural Treatise)* by Wang Zhen from 1332 to Yuan dynasty. As well as the philological works, we also plan for the members of different specialties to give their lectures on the various subjects on the history of technology and science in China.

STUDY OF THE WOODEN SLIPS EXCAVATED IN INNER MONGOLIA

(coordinated by Associate Professor TOMIYA, I., April 1996-March 1999)

In 1973 a great number of wooden slips were excavated in the EDSSEN-GOL area of Inner Mongolia. They have amounted to 20,000 pieces, and in 1979 more than 1,000 additional wooden slips were discovered at Ma-Juan-Wan in the Don-Huang area. Our seminar has been arranged in order to study these wooden slips. We intended to undertake the transcription of each letter and to annotate words or phrases appearing on wooden slips. By making use of methods in the critical interpretation of ancient texts, it is our object to read the slips accurately.

CHINESE COMMUNISM AND JAPAN: THOUGHT, MOVEMENT, WAR

(coordinated by Professor HAZAMA, N., April 1997-March 2001)

A result of the history of modern China was the birth of contemporary Chinese state, Peoples's Republic of China (PRC). It is apparent that PRC is the "Communist" state governed by the Chinese Communist Party. To trace the above-mentioned process, needless to say, we must consider the world-wide Communism and its movements that appeared as a historical phenomenon peculiar to the twentieth century. But we especially have to investigate its close relations with Japan (and Korea) in East Asia. This study is intended to focus on Chinese Communism and Japan from three perspectives — thought, movement and war.

Department of Occidental Studies

THE ORGANIZATION OF SCIENCE AFTER THE MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY (coordinated by Professor SAKAGAMI, T., April 1994-March 1998)

This project is devoted to conducting interdisciplinary studies on problems and concepts connected with the organization of science after the mid-19th century. Major topics under consideration include: the specialization and institutionalization of natural, social and human sciences; the transformation of academic communities; and the complex cross-influence between the organization of science and the development of modern society. Particular attention will be paid to the emergence of research institutes in Europe and the United States, as well as in Japan. This project also intends to complement the results achieved in the preceding one, "Knowledge as Social Order", which focused on the social, political and cultural impact of science in Europe and the United States during the age of the French Revolution. Sessions will be held fortnightly on Fridays.

CULTURAL CONSTRUCTION OF SUBJECT-SELF (coordinated by Associate Professor TANAKA, M., April 1994-March 1998)

This project aims to understand a concept of subject and other related concepts like individual, self, agency, personhood etc. both within the context of cultural settings and within theoretical frameworks. Each member is expected to present data based on his or her fieldwork for contributing to comparative analyses, and for examining the above mentioned concepts derived from Western academic culture.

FACETS OF CULTURAL HISTORY OF CLASSICAL INDIA: ASPECTS OF ANCIENT INDIAN KINGSHIP (coordinated by Professor IKARI, Y., April 1995-March 1998)

Interrelationship between the political power and the religious authority has been a key concept in understanding characteristic features of various cultures and civilizations of the world. In ancient India, this problem is typically represented by the complicated interactions between the kingship and the brahman intellectuals who have monopolized the orthodox religious traditions. In this joint seminar, we shall specially focus our attention on the interrelations between the two genres of literatures, *i.e.* the "Dharma" literatures (*dhamasūtras* and *dharmaśāstras*) which grew among the milieu of Vedic ritual traditions and the "Artha" literatures (genre of *Rājanīti* traditions including *Arthaśāstra*) which developed around the king and his court. In close cooperation of scholars of Indology from various fields, our seminar try to investigate how these genres of literatures had reciprocally influenced and enriched their own respective traditions. As a starting point, we take up the *Rājadharmā* section of *Mahābhārata* (XII.1-128), one of the early and important sources on our topic and aim for fresh interpretations on the early phases of interaction between the power and religious authority in ancient India.

COMMUNICATION IN SOCIAL HISTORY

(coordinated by Professor MAEKAWA, K., April 1995-March 1998)

This is a comparative study of communication in the period before the invention of electronic communication media. We focus on the social context in which communication media were used rather than on the history of technological innovations in the system of communication. Communication by means of writings is only one of the topics to be studied here. The oral and non-verbal messages of a preacher would have, for example, made as significant an influence on the layman as the preacher's writings. The well-known impact which Gutenberg's invention of typographic printing had upon modern Europe is also studied here. However, we emphasize the fact that other kind of communication media continued to be in use in Europe even after Gutenberg's invention.

A STUDY AVANT-GARDE ART

(coordinated by USAMI, H., April 1997-March 2001)

The Avant-Garde movement in art, at the beginning of the 20th century, gave rise to a radical change of art, as well as in the theory of representation. We intend to re-examine this movement in its whole range. Interaction between different genres such as literature, fine arts, theater, cinema, together with parallel developments in science and technology, changes in the political and social infrastructure, and also the ideological context of the movement—these factors, obviously, will be taken into account. But further, we wish to stress the importance of a comparative point of view which will allow us to embrace various aspects of this artistic experience, extending beyond Western Europe to Japan, China, Russia, the United-States, etc. The period covered will be from the early 20th century to the 1930's. We plan to meet twice a month and, after three years' research reports and discussions, to prepare a final report in the last year with a view to publication.

COLONIALISM AND ANTHROPOLOGY

(coordinated by Visiting Professor YAMAJI, K., April 1997-March 2000)

Many Western anthropologists had been involved in colonial policies since the 19th century. They had also taken serious roles to create special images of other cultures outside the West. These situations are similar to the case of Japan after the Meiji period. This project concerning the comparative studies of colonialism aims to analyze the following themes; comparative studies of colonial policies, roles of anthropologists, and socio-cultural changes in colonized countries.

READING THE DEBATE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN 1789

(coordinated by Associate Professor TOMINAGA, S., April 1997-March 2000)

This three-year-long project aims to examine the concept of citizenship through the minute research on the making of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. Before this declaration was definitively adopted on the 26 August in 1789, an impassioned debate on Human rights had been developed in the National Assembly over this summer. In the course of the debate, many authors had been trying to present a number of drafts of the declaration, both inside and outside the Assembly. In the first year of this project, we are mainly occupied with close reading of the proceedings of the Assembly, in order to make translation and commentary of selected drafts in a comparative study of several variants. Such a preliminary stage will contribute to our research in the following years, which intends to shed light on the political and philosophical situation of citizen-making at the beginning of modernity. Sessions will be held fortnightly on Monday afternoon.